

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

**KRISTINA BENSON,**

**Plaintiff,**

**v.**

**No. 13-cv-0781 SMV**

**CAROLYN W. COLVIN,  
Acting Commissioner of Social Security Administration,**

**Defendant.**

**ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION  
FOR ATTORNEY FEES UNDER EAJA**

THIS MATTER is before the Court on Plaintiff's Motion for Attorney Fees Pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act, with Memorandum in Support [Doc. 21], filed on February 2, 2015. Plaintiff requests attorney fees in the amount of \$6,991.60. In her response [Doc. 22], the Commissioner does not object to Plaintiff's request for attorney fees. The Court, having considered the submissions of counsel, the record in this case, and the relevant law, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, **FINDS** that the motion is well-taken and will be **GRANTED**.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED** that Plaintiff's Motion [Doc. 21] is **GRANTED**, and Plaintiff Kristina Benson is authorized to receive **\$6,991.60** for payment to her attorney for services before this Court, as permitted by the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, and in accordance with *Manning v. Astrue*, 510 F.3d 1246, 1255 (10th Cir. 2007).

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that if Plaintiff's counsel is ultimately granted attorney fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 406(b) of the Social Security Act, counsel shall refund the smaller award to Plaintiff pursuant to *Gisbrecht v. Barnhart*, 535 U.S. 789, 796 (2002) ("Congress harmonized fees payable by the Government under EAJA with fees payable under § 406(b) out of the claimant's past-due Social Security benefits in this manner: Fee awards may be made under both prescriptions, but the claimant's attorney must refun[d] to the claimant the amount of the smaller fee.") (internal quotation marks omitted).

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**



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**STEPHAN M. VIDMAR**  
**United States Magistrate Judge**  
**Presiding by Consent**